



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Western District of New York

Further inquiries: (716)843-5814

138 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

PRESS RELEASE

October 12, 2004

RE: UNITED STATES v. MICHAEL JONES

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced that 21-year-old Michael Jones of Buffalo, NY, pled guilty today in federal district court to the December 9, 2002 armed robbery of the Jamestown Savings Bank, and to a separate count of carrying a firearm during the commission of that robbery. The maximum prison sentence for the bank robbery is a term of imprisonment of 20 years. In addition to that, Michael Jones faces a seven-year mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for the firearms possession count. Federal law requires that the prison terms for the robbery and the firearms convictions be served consecutively.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Gregory L. Brown and Jack Rogowski said Michael Jones admitted to U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny that he entered the bank with an accomplice who was brandishing a firearm. Both men wore hooded sweatshirts with

bandannas covering their faces during the robbery. While his accomplice pointed a handgun directly at bank personnel, Michael Jones vaulted over the counter and scooped nearly \$14,000 in cash from teller drawers. Michael Jones's accomplice was Lemar Jones, 21, also of Buffalo, who pled guilty before Judge Skretny December 1, 2003. Michael Jones and Lemar Jones fled from the area of the bank in a car that had been stolen in Buffalo the night before the robbery.

Michael Jones is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Skretny on January 11, 2005. Judge Skretny will sentence Lemar Jones on December 1, 2004. Both men are in custody pending sentencing.

The Jamestown office of the FBI, under the direction of Special Agent In-Charge Peter Ahearn, participated in the investigation with the Jamestown Police Department, the New York State Police and the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Department.

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